

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Erich Bott et al
Application Number: Unassigned
Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith
Group Art Unit:
Examiner:
Title: VACUUM CLEANER COMPRISING AN ELASTIC
BUMPER STRIP

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98, I am submitting a completed "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" (*Form PTO/SB/08A*) with patents and/or publications as delineated therein attached.

DE 87 08 238 U1 discloses a floor vacuum cleaner with a vacuum cleaner housing having a rear wall, an upper and lower section and having an engine blower area, dust collecting area, an area for a cable winding-on equipment, and an exhaust air filter covers. The housing sections and the individual areas are sealed by means of a joint sealer, and the joint sealer also forms an impact guard for the vacuum cleaner housing. The joint sealer connects the impact guard (10) around the overall vacuum cleaner housing and is broadened in the area of the rear wall.

DE 33 30 201 A1 discloses that a floor vacuum cleaner has a handle 4 with a continuous gripping opening in the region of a short front narrow side of the housing 1. On the outer contour of the handle 4 there is a bumper strip 5 guided up to the adjacent long narrow side 7. In order to achieve an improved protection of the housing in the frontal region, the bumper strip 5 is assigned an attachment 8 which extends at least over a partial area of the narrow side 2 assigned to the handle 4.

DE 87 11 960 U1 discloses a vacuum cleaner housing for a floor vacuum cleaner having a flexible impact protection. The impact protection volume consists of a ridge (6) that is fastened to the vacuum cleaner housing (1, 2) with a long side (7) opposite the vacuum

cleaner housing (1, 2) extending diagonally outward. A pitch exists between the attachment place of the ridge (6) to the vacuum cleaner housing (1) and up to its free long side (7).

If no translation of pertinent portions of any foreign language patents or publications mentioned within the "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" is included with the aforementioned copies of those applications, patents and/or publications, it is because no existing translation is readily available to the Applicants. As per the Notice in 1273 OG 55 (August 5, 2003) no copies of any above-mentioned US patents and US patent application publications are submitted for this application which was filed after June 30, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,



Craig J. Loest

Registration No. 48,557

June 15, 2005

BSH Home Appliances Corp.
100 Bosch Blvd
New Bern, NC 28562
Phone: 252-672-7930
Fax: 714-845-2807
craig.loest@bshg.com

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known
 Application Number Unassigned
 Filing Date Herewith
 First Named Inventor Erich Bott et al
 Art Unit
 Examiner Name
 Attorney Docket Number 2002P01512WOUS

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 5,687,450 A1	11-18-1997	Klaus Stein et al	
		US- 2,273,883 A1	02-24-1942	G.W. Norrick	
		US- 5,659,919 A1	08-26-1997	Shinichiro Kajihara	
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		DE 87 08 238 U1	07-30-1987	Siemens AG		
		DE 33 30 201 A1	02-28-1985	Gerhard Stettner et al		
		DE 87 11 960 U1	01-05-1989	Siemens AG		
		International Search Report for PCT/EP2003/013316				✓

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.